

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is directed to various embodiments of a connector. In one illustrative embodiment, the connector comprises a first component, the first component adapted to be coupled to a second component, an outer collar positioned around the first component, the outer collar adapted to be threadingly coupled to the second component, and a plurality of collet fingers positioned between the outer collar and the first component, the outer collar having a surface that is adapted to engage the collet fingers and urge the collet fingers into engagement with the first and second components when the outer collar is threadingly coupled to the second component. The present invention is also directed to various methods of coupling a first component to a second component. In one illustrative embodiment, the method comprises rotatably coupling a rotatable outer collar to the first component, wherein a plurality of collet fingers are positioned between the rotatable outer collar and the first component, positioning the first component adjacent the second component, and rotatably coupling the outer collar to the second component, wherein a surface of the outer collar urges the collet fingers into engagement with the first and second components.